

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) Neck support for a chair, having a head cushion (6)-on a guide sleeve (4)-which can be displaced on a retaining bar (2), the retaining bar (2)-being articulated on the top edge of ~~the~~a backrest (1)-of the chair via a first articulation bearing (3), and the head cushion (6)-being articulated on a second articulation bearing (5)-at ~~the~~a top end of the guide sleeve (4), and both the retaining bar (2)-and the guide sleeve (4)-being of rectilinear design, this resulting in linear height adjustability of the head cushion (6), characterized in that ~~wherein~~ the bottom articulation-first articulation bearing (3)-has a pivoting range of approximately 35° and the top-second articulation bearing (5)-has a pivoting range of approximately 40°, and in that the bottom articulation-first articulation bearing (3) comprises a first cylinder (7), which is integrally formed at ~~the~~a bottom of the retaining bar (2), and a second cylinder (8) and a third cylinder (9)-integrally formed at ~~the~~a top of the bearing foot (10), it being possible for the bearing foot (10) being configured to be introduced in a tongue-like manner into ~~the~~a shaft (11) of ~~the~~a backrest panel (12), and the rotation of the first cylinder (7) is configured to rotate between the second cylinder (8) and the third cylinder (9) being made possible by means of blocks (13)-inserted in ~~the~~an interior of the cylinders-(7, 8, 9).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) The neck Neck-support according to claim 1, characterized in that in each case one wherein a rotary clearance with a stop (14)-for the blocks (13)-is provided in the interior of the second cylinder (8) and of the third cylinder (9), and in that also provided is a stop (14) for the blocks (13), and in that also provided are adjustable elements (15, 16)-are provided which can be adjusted in respect of their based on a

Application No. 10/620,381
Reply to Office Action of April 30, 2004

frictional force and by means of which controlling the rotation of the retaining bar (2) is braked-in an adjustable manner.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) Neek-The neck support according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein, at its-a bottom end of the neck support, the bearing foot (10), has a latching nose (17) which can configured to be latched into a recess (18) of the shaft (11) of the backrest panel (12) for the purpose of anchoring the bearing foot (10) in the shaft (11).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) Neek-The neck support according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the retaining bar (2) has a longitudinally running guide slot (19) in which a clip (20)-slides in order to prevent withdrawal, the clips engaging in a recess (25) of the guide sleeve (4) by way of its-a nose of each clip.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) Neek-The neck support according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the bottom bearing (3) and the top bearing (5) are of an identical basic construction.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended) Neek-The neck support according to claim 1, characterized in thatwherein the head cushion (6)-consists of a PUR-polyurethane material foamed onto a frame-(23).

Claim 7 (Cancelled)

Remarks/Arguments

Favorable reconsideration of this Application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on April 30, 2004. Claim 7 has been cancelled. Claims 1-6 are pending and stand rejected in the Application. However, Claims 1-6 would be allowable if amended to correct the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. The indication of allowable subject matter is noted with appreciation. Claims 1-6 are amended by the present Amendment.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) for assertedly lacking a feature of the invention specified in the claims. This objection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of Claim 7.

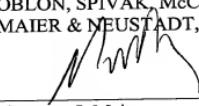
Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Applicants submit that the amendments to Claims 1-6 enclosed herein have overcome these rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 and respectfully request their withdrawal. It is believed that all pending claims are definite and no further rejection on that basis is anticipated. If, however, the Examiner disagrees, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned who will be happy to work with the Examiner in a joint effort to derive mutually acceptable language.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-6 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representatives at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Registration No. 25,599
Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099
Attorneys of Record

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

L:\ATTY\RT\P240355\8J.AM.DOC